

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 11082 151646Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00
USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 /075 W
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O 151652Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1794
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 11082

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR US UN SF WA FR
SUBJ: VENUE FOR NAMIBIA TALKS

REF: (A) STATE 83686, (B) PARIS 10852

1. WE DISCUSSED THIS SUBJECT WITH QUAI SOUTHERN AFRICAN AFFAIRS OFFICER (LODIOT) APRIL 15, AND LEFT COPY OF PARAS 1-5 OF REFTEL WITH HIM. LODIOT NOTED STRONG FRENCH PREFERENCE FOR CAPE TOWN VENUE, CITING AS PRIMARY REASON THE DESIRE FOR THE TALKS TO BE EFFECTIVE. HE SAID THAT IN NEW YORK, SOUTH AFRICA IS REPRESENTED BY AN UNINFLUENTIAL CHARGE. FOURIE, WHOM THE FRENCH CONSIDER THE BEST INTERLOCUTOR, HAS TOLD THEM THAT HE WILL NOT GO TO NEW YORK, AND GIVEN THE SOUTH AFRICAN AVERSION TO ANYTHING SMACKING OF THE UN, THE FRENCH ARE CONVINCED NO OTHER SUITABLY HIGH-LEVEL REPRESENTATIVE WILL BE NAMED. IN ADDITION, THE FRENCH FEEL THAT
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AMB. YOUNG'S DESIRE TO GIVE A MORE SOLEMN CHARACTER THAN HERETOFORE TO WESTERN DEALINGS WITH SOUTH AFRICA CAN NOT BE ACHIEVED IN NEW YORK WHERE THE PROBLEM IS LIKELY TO BE SWALLOWED UP IN THE UN MACHINERY.

2. HAVING UNBURDENED HIMSELF OF THESE APPARENTLY STRONGLY-HELD VIEWS, LODIOT PROMISED TO PASS

ON OUR THINKING TO HIS SUPERIORS. HE SUGGESTED,
HOWEVER, THAT THE EARLIEST MOMENT WHEN THE QUESTION
MIGHT BE SETTLED WAS DURING THE EXPERTS MEETING IN
NEW YORK ON APRIL 18.

3. FRANCE WILL BE REPRESENTED AT THAT MEETING BY
ALBERT THABAULT, FORMER AMBASSADOR TO UGANDA,
CURRENTLY UNASSIGNED, WHOM EMBOFF RECALLS AS AN
ERSTWHILE DEFENDER OF MARSHALL AMIN AS BEING "THE
WAVE OF THE FUTURE IN AFRICA", AND BY DANIEL AVRAM,
OF THE QUAI LEGAL ADVISOR'S OFFICE.
HARLAN

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Message Attributes

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